

South-Central *Build Wisconsin* Regional Workshop Small Group Record

Small Group _____ # 6 _____ (color)

Facilitator _____ Kathy Heady and Steve Peterson. _____

Reporter _____ Mary Grant _____

Top 10 responses to the question: “What can the State do to foster economic growth in your region?”

Priority response #1 (votes: 6)

Stop being a leader in taxes and regulation

Priority response #2 (votes: _5)

Provide incentives to graduates/employees and businesses to retain college graduates

Priority response #3 (votes: __3)

Provide more incentives to attract businesses, i.e. provide regional economic development grants

Priority response #4 (votes: __3)

Ensure articulation and credit transfer between the technical schools and the university

Priority response #5 (votes: __2_)

Set goals. Track accomplishments. Communicate results, be accountable.

Priority response #6 (votes: __2_)

Go after more federal dollars

Priority response #7 (votes: _2_)

Develop policies that recognize regional differences

Priority response #8 (votes: _2)

Change PSC rules to encourage public service infrastructure development

Priority response #9 (votes: _2_)

Promote Wisconsin businesses in the K-12 system

Priority response #10(votes: __2_)

Level “playing field” between municipally owned and privately owned development parks

Priority Issue #11 (votes 2)

Support for childcare and afterschool programs

“Actions Necessary to Achieve our Ideas” Exercise

“If we want to accomplish this [priority issue #1], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

Priority Issue #1 Stop being a leader in taxes and regulation

- Better clarification of codes and regulations – consistency of interpretation
- Consolidation to reduce duplication, e.g. child care licensing
- Reduce state spending to allow tax reduction
- Explore new user taxes
- Broaden tax base
- Provide more information/detail on sources and uses of tax
- Reduce state staff by 20%
- Eliminate township government and provide services through counties
- Go after more federal dollars
- Change excise tax on exportation of natural resources
- Reduce state cars and planes
- Consolidation of services and facilities between units of government
- Strive towards operations self-sufficiency
- Reward efficiencies (e.g. eliminate “spend or lose” budget)
- Consider privatization of services

Priority Issue #2 Provide incentives to graduates/employees and businesses to retain college graduates

- Forgiveness of loans (education_)for graduates remaining in the State of Wisconsin
- Tax benefits for businesses and employee
- Incentives to businesses from colleges and universities to establish internship and work study and apprenticeships (e.g. credit against payroll tax)
- Low interest loans for housing and graduate and returning graduates.
- Grant in-state tuition rates for out of state students who commit to work in Wisconsin x number of years

Priority Issue #3 Provide more incentives to attract businesses, i.e. provide regional economic development grants

- Allow more flexibility to local government to offer incentives
- Create benchmarks of Wisconsin incentives vs. those of neighboring states
- WI Prospect Data Sheet 0 Need more flexibility to offer an incentive before all information is submitted
- More flexibility and resources with training dollars (using Unemployment compensation)
- Work towards non-compete agreements with neighboring states and communities (avoid incentive wars)